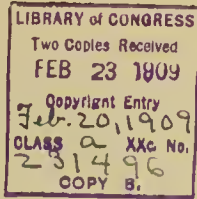


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THE
LATEST
VIEWS
OF

Washington





Washington



THE City of Washington, the Capital of the United States of America, is situated on the left bank of the Potomac at the confluence of the Eastern branch with that river. It is located one hundred and six miles from Chesapeake Bay, has an area of over six thousand acres, and a present population of about three hundred thousand.

The act of Congress establishing the seat of the Federal Government on the banks of the Potomac was approved by President George Washington on July 16, 1790. The planning of the new Capitol was left in the hands of a young Frenchman, Major Charles L'Enfant, and time has confirmed the wisdom of the selection, although for many years the plans so far exceeded the reality that Washington was sarcastically termed "the city of magnificent distances," by the Abbe Carrea, Minister from Portugal in 1816. During the years immediately following the wanton burning of the city by the British in 1814, Washington grew steadily, but it was the Civil War which gave the greatest impetus to growth in population—a momentum which has never been lost since that period.

The Washington of today is a splendid city of great public buildings, superb hotels, luxurious clubs, and private residences. As the official metropolis of the National Government and the home of thousands of office-holders, great and small, it differs in every respect from the ordinary American city. It has no municipal government of its own, being only a geographical spot in the District of Columbia, which is managed by three commissioners appointed by the President, and not a separate corporation.

The "magnificent distances" of sarcasm are now the truth. No city in the world can show such vistas of broad avenues and beautiful streets, adorned with the finest work of the most famous sculptors, with here and there the sublime architecture of an immense public edifice gleaming amid the foliage. Every American citizen has reason to be proud of the great Capital of the Republic.

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THE NATIONAL CAPITOL

This majestic structure, covering an area of nearly four acres, occupies a commanding position upon Capitol Hill, one and one-third miles from the White House. Its grace and beauty of design and dignified proportions give it leading rank among the architectural triumphs of the world. The effect is much enhanced by the extensive and well-arranged Capitol Grounds which surround the building. The interior is lavishly adorned with priceless statuary and paintings.



VIEW FROM WASHINGTON MONUMENT—LOOKING EAST

From the Monument looking east toward the Capitol lies the beautiful landscape of the Mall and the Public Botanical Gardens. In the foreground is the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum. The noble white fronts of the Capitol and the Congressional Library form a striking center to the vista. The winding course of the Potomac may be followed for miles. In the distance the green fields of Virginia stretch away to the distant horizon.



THE SENATE CHAMBER—CAPITOL

The spacious hall of the Senate Chamber is in the north wing of the Capitol. The concentric rows of the seats of the senators radiate from the dais of the President of the Senate's desk on the north side. Rich decorations in gold arabesques over delicate tints adorn the walls, and the light from above is mellowed by the allegorical symbols which beautify the glass ceiling. The committee and reception rooms are veritable art galleries of the highest order.



THE HALL OF REPRESENTATIVES—CAPITOL

A Legislative Chamber without a rival in the world. In an elevated position at the south side is the Speaker's desk of white marble, flanked on either side by full length portraits of Washington and Lafayette. The seats of the members are arranged in concentric semi-circles with radiating aisles. The famous Lobby of the House opens off the hall back of the Speaker's desk. The galleries are spacious and are reached by beautiful marble stairways.



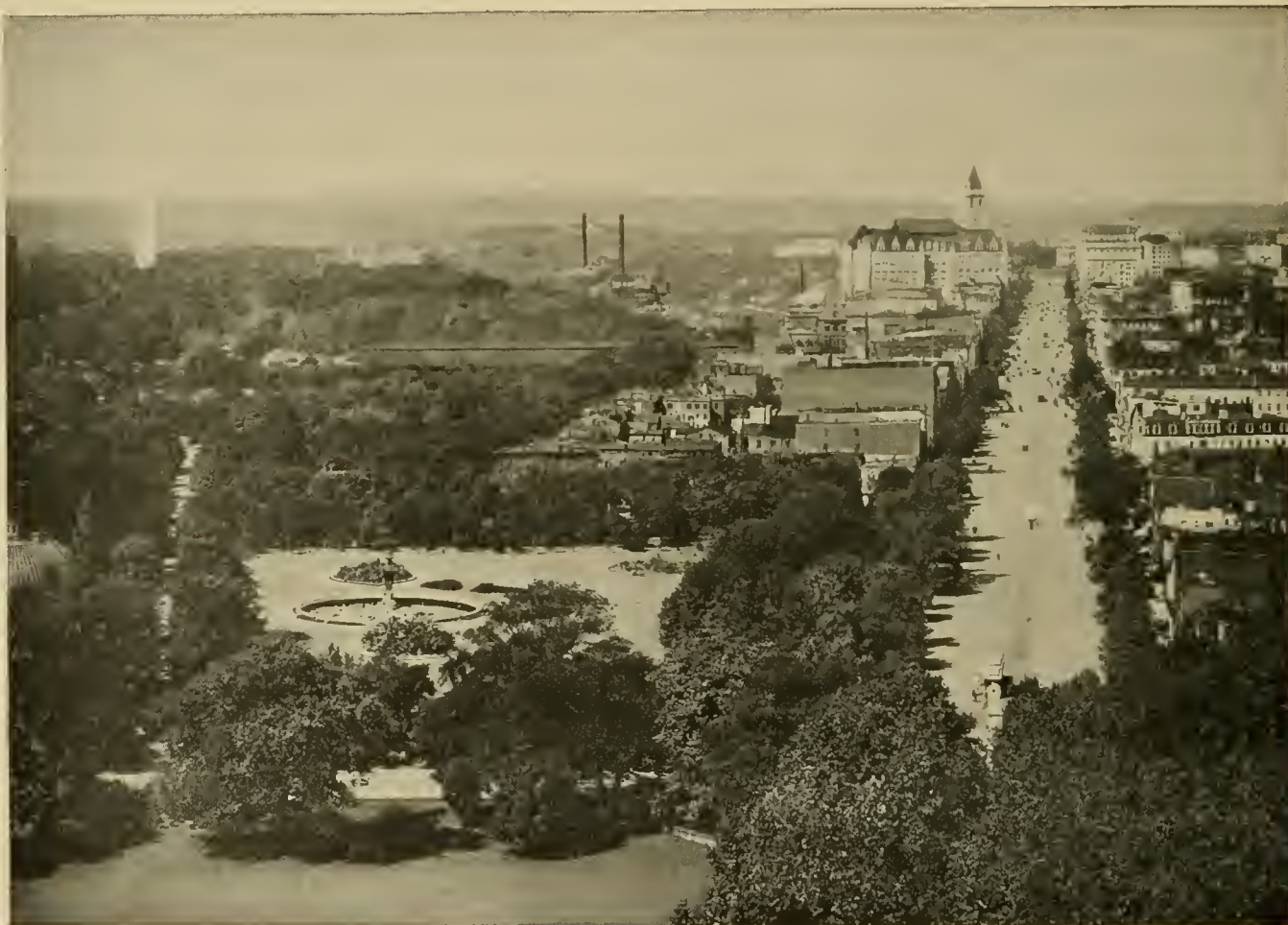
THE SUPREME COURT ROOM—CAPITOL

Here sits the most august tribunal of the world—the Supreme Court of the United States of America. The hall is semi-circular, with a dome-shaped ceiling, having decorative squares of stucco work. A screen of Ionic columns built of the finest Potomac marble, supports a gallery in the rear of the Bench where the Chief Justice and his eight Associate Justices listen to the eminent lawyers who address them from the space in front. Public seats are outside the railing.



PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE—LOOKING EAST

Pennsylvania Avenue is the grand approach to the Capitol, and its sides are lined with the busy office buildings of the Government and the magnificent hotels of Washington. In the view shown here, from the Treasury Building, the lofty tower of the General Post Office rises in the right middle distance, and the great bulk of the New Willard hotel appears at the left. In the center background the dignified front and stately dome of the Capitol rise above the green lawn and foliage of the surrounding grounds.



GENERAL VIEW OF WASHINGTON

The development of Washington has been mainly to the westward of the Capitol, although the projectors assumed it would be to the east. From the western terrace of the Capitol may be obtained a beautiful view of the city and the encircling hills. The broad asphalted surface of Pennsylvania Avenue stretches across the scene until it meets the noble front of the Treasury Building. Nearly all of the great public buildings are in view. At the left gleams the tapering shaft of the Washington Monument.



THOMAS CIRCLE

In the Thomas Circle, at the junction of Vermont and Massachusetts avenues, stands a fine equestrian statue of General George H. Thomas, the "Rock of Chickamauga," erected by the Society of the Army of the Cumberland in honor of their beloved leader during the Civil War. The statue is considered one of the best examples of the genius of the famous American sculptor, J. Q. A. Ward.



PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. TAFT AND MRS. TAFT

President Taft was born September 15, 1857, Cincinnati, Ohio. Married Miss Helen Herron of Cincinnati, June 19, 1886. Mr. Taft is the twenty-seventh President of the United States.



THE REMODELED WHITE HOUSE

This building preserves an air of stately simplicity which goes well with its history as the official home of every President of the United States since George Washington, who laid the corner stone in 1792, but died in 1799 before the building was completed. When the British troops entered the city in 1814, the building was wantonly fired, and it was the coat of paint which the stones received to obliterate the marks of the flames that gave rise to the name "White House," the popular designation of the Executive Mansion. Extensive alterations and additions were made in 1902-03.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

The White House was found to be inadequate to serve both as the office and residence of the President as well as for the executive sessions of the Nation's Chief and his various secretaries; consequently a new building was erected for the executive office where persons having business with the President are received from 12 to 1 o'clock on all days except holidays and Sundays. It is located on the west side of the White House and connected by a broad promenade with the older building.



THE STATE, WAR AND NAVY BUILDING

This largest and most magnificent office building in the world is located west of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue and Seventeenth Street. Within are five hundred rooms devoted entirely to the use of the several departments and connected by over two miles of marble corridors. The west wing is occupied by the War Department, the east wing by the Navy Department, and the south by the State Department.



THE TREASURY BUILDING

The Treasury Building, east of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue and Fifteenth Street, is acknowledged to be architecturally perfect. The fronts are generously adorned with Ionic columns, and give an impression of dignity, solidity and security. In the Cash Room the daily transactions run to the amount of millions of dollars. Below, the strong gold, silver and bond vaults are replete with the representatives of the country's wealth.



THE PENSION BUILDING

This immense structure in reality encloses a great court with a lofty roof of glass and iron. The court is surrounded by galleries which rise one above the other and contains tier after tier of offices. Here the enormous pension business of the United States is handled with perfect system. Since the War of the Rebellion the astounding total of more than three billions of dollars has been paid to pensioners, a record without a parallel in the history of nations.



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress is beyond a doubt the most artistic library building in the world. It faces west upon First Street and the other walls front upon East Capitol, Second and B Streets. The grounds adjoin those of the Capitol. It consists of a great central rotunda, which is the reading room, with radiating book stacks, enclosed in a parallelogram of galleries and pavilions. There are three stories, surmounted by a massive gilded dome.



THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The Smithsonian Institution stands in the southern end of the Smithsonian Grounds, a part of the Mall near B street, between Tenth and Eleventh streets. It received its name from James Smithson, an Englishman, who bequeathed his entire property in 1829 to found "an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." The collections preserved here comprise thousands of natural history specimens, and American and European prehistoric antiquities.



THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The new Municipal Building at Pennsylvania Avenue and 14th Street has been erected to serve as the headquarters of the offices of the peculiar municipal government of Washington—operated under the supervision of three commissioners appointed by the President. The edifice has been admired as an exquisite example of the present-day tendency of American architecture to produce public buildings of notable beauty.



PROMINENT EMBASSY BUILDINGS

Italy—1400 New Hampshire Avenue.
Austro-Hungary—1304 Eighteenth Street.

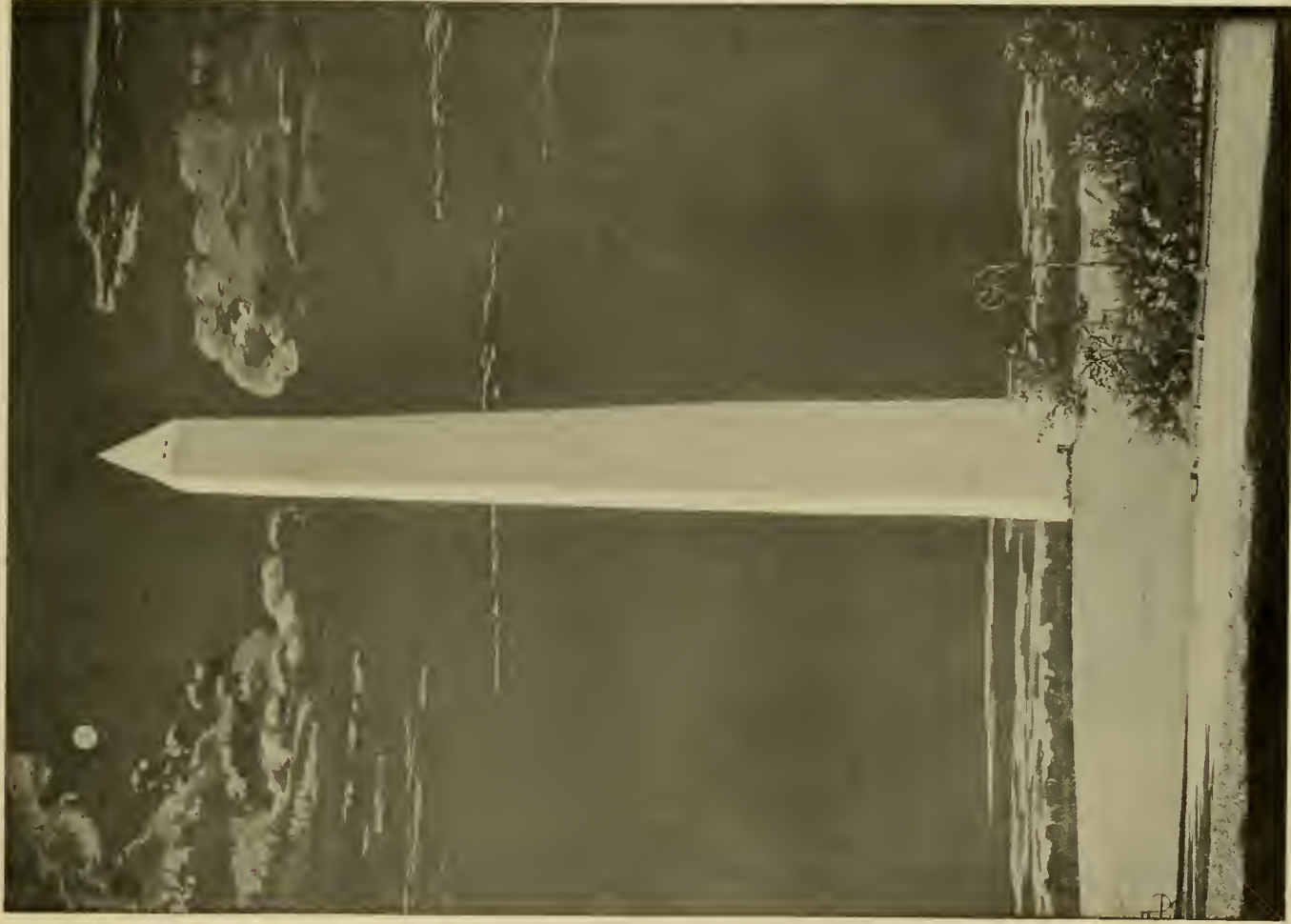
France—1640 Rhode Island Avenue.
Germany—1435 Massachusetts Avenue.

Great Britain—1300 Connecticut Avenue.
Japan—1310 N Street.



THE GENERAL POST OFFICE

The offices of the Postmaster General and his subordinates who have in charge the direction and management of the postal system of the United States are in this great building located on Pennsylvania Avenue at D and Twelfth Streets. The Dead Letter Office handles an average of over twenty thousand pieces of misdirected, illegible or forbidden mail matter daily. The Museum of the Dead Letter Office contains an interesting exhibit.



THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT

This imposing obelisk of white marble rises from an elevation in Washington Park, a part of the Mall near Fourteenth Street. The height from the floor of the entrance to the extreme tip is a trifle over five hundred fifty-five feet, making it the highest work of masonry in the world. An extensive view may be obtained on every side from the windows near the apex. The monument dominates the city. Its overpowering height gives it a place in every vista.



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THE UNITED STATES SOLDIERS' HOME

The United States Soldiers' Home is surrounded by over five hundred acres of beautiful lawn, slope and ravine, three miles north of the Capitol, at Michigan Avenue and North Capitol Street. Here the Government cares for more than twelve hundred veterans of the regular service. They are comfortably lodged, fed and clothed, and receive medical care and medicine, all without cost. The white Norman tower of the Home is a pleasing feature of the landscape.



THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

The National Museum, on the Mall, B Street, between Ninth and Tenth Streets, is the repository of over five million specimens of objects of scientific and artistic interest which have come into the possession of the Government. In the historical section are many personal relics, mementoes and memorials of distinguished Americans. The Washington and Grant relics are of especial interest. The Museum is supported by an annual appropriation of Congress.



THE NEW WASHINGTON TERMINAL

This, the finest railway station in the world, affords a most fitting and dignified entrance to the great Capital of the Republic. It is built to accord with a great plan for beautifying and developing the city, and the terminal improvements and station will total in cost to over \$18,000,000. Its architectural treatment has been drawn from the famous triumphal arches of ancient Rome. The passenger concourse is 760 feet long by 130 feet wide. The State entrance is in the east pavilion.



THE NEW WILLARD HOTEL

This magnificent hostelry, located at Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourteenth Street, has a reputation which encircles the globe. It has been the temporary stopping-place of world-renowned statesmen and diplomats, and the scene of many banquets and social occasions of international interest. It is imposing in its exterior appearance and the interior furnishings are but little short of regal.



THE LAFAYETTE MONUMENT

In Lafayette Square, nearly opposite the White House, is the imposing bronze and marble memorial to Lafayette and his compatriots who served in the Revolutionary War. It was erected by Congress in 1890, and is the work of two French sculptors, Antoine Falguiere and Antonin Mercier. America, in front, offers the sword of liberty to the heroic figure of Lafayette. On one side are Rochambeau and Duportail, on the other D'Estaing and DeGrasse.



THE PEACE MONUMENT

At the foot of Capitol Hill, on Pennsylvania Avenue, stands a splendid monument to commemorate the valiant services of the "officers, seamen and marines of the United States Navy, who fell in defence of the Union and Liberty of their Country, 1861-1865." It is called the "Peace Monument," from the noble statue on the east side. Two figures, History and America, crown the top. It was executed by Franklin Simmons, and erected in 1877.



THE JACKSON STATUE

This famous bronze statue the work of Clark Mills, is situated in Lafayette Square, opposite the north front of the White House. The bronze was cast from cannon captured in Jackson's campaigns, and some of the old guns flank the four sides of the base. It was unveiled on January 8, 1853, an anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, a glorious victory which decided the War of 1812 against Great Britain and made Jackson the idol of the people.



HOME OF GEORGE WASHINGTON—MOUNT VERNON

The Mansion House of Mount Vernon was built in 1743. It occupies one of the finest sites on the Potomac. The associations of this old house with the honored name of Washington, have made it a shrine of patriotism. Here are hundreds of relics of the great President, and the room in which he died is kept unchanged. The restoration, equipment and keeping of the several rooms are in the care of the women of the various States.

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WASHINGTON'S TOMB AT MOUNT VERNON

A plain brick structure with an arched gateway in front, above which an inscription upon a marble slab reads, "Within this enclosure rests the remains of General George Washington." The tomb of the first President seems to agree with what we know of the simple habits of the Father of his Country. In the anti-chamber may be seen two marble sarcophagi; the one on the right contains the body of Washington, the one on the left that of Martha, his wife.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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